

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor :Hideki NAGINO, et al.

Filed :Concurrently herewith

For :STORAGE DEVICE

Serial Number :Concurrently herewith

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 19, 2004

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Prior to issuance of an Office Action, please amend the application as follows: